

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**1. (Currently Amended):** A process for forming the stator of a linear electric motor, said stator comprising an annular stack of lamination elements seated laterally to each other, each lamination element having an internal axial extension and two end radial extensions, and in which annular stack is mounted a tubular coil, comprising the steps of:

providing lamination elements, each defined by two lamination portions to be affixed to each other to complete the respective lamination element, at least one of said lamination portions having at least part of the internal axial extension of the respective lamination element;

providing a rectilinear alignment of each of a plurality of lamination portions presenting a radially internal axial edge, said lamination portions being laterally mutually seated, with their respective radially internal axial edges defining a flat surface;

affixing to each other the radially internal axial edges of the lamination portions of the rectilinear alignment of each plurality of lamination portions, to allow only the relative limited angular displacement of each lamination portion around its part of the radially internal axial edge;

deforming the alignment of each plurality of lamination portions affixed to each other to an annular shape, with the respective radially internal axial edges defining an internal cylindrical surface of the respective annular assembly;

forming two mutually complementary annular assemblies, with the lamination portions of each annular assembly being seated side by side in relation to each other, [[and]]

seating a respective adjacent end portion of the tubular coil in the interior of one of said annular assemblies; and

mounting the other of said annular assemblies to the remainder of the tubular coil, affixing the two annular assemblies to each other, to complete the shape of the annular stack of lamination elements, the two annular assemblies of the lamination elements being affixed to each other in seating regions with mutual fitting, seating in the interior of each of said annular assemblies a respective adjacent end portion of the tubular coil, affixing the two annular assemblies to each other to complete the shape of the annular stack of lamination elements.

**2. (Cancelled)**

**3. (Previously Presented):** The process according to claim 1, wherein the mutual fixation of the lamination portions is obtained with the step of providing an adhesive to the seating region with the mutual fitting of at least one of the annular assemblies.

**4. (Previously Presented):** The process according to claim 3 further comprising the step of submitting the adhesive to cure under tension, mutually affixing the lamination portions of the two annular assemblies.

**5. (Previously Presented):** The process according to claim 3, wherein, in the providing lamination elements step, one of the lamination portions of each lamination element is provided with a recess in the seating region for the other lamination portion, which is provided in the respective seating region with a complementary projection to be fitted in said recess upon the fixation of the two annular assemblies.

**6. (Cancelled)**

**7. (Previously Presented):** The process according to claim 1, further comprising the step of providing the tubular coil with an insulating cover.

**8. (Previously Presented):** The process according to claim 7, wherein the insulating cover is injected around the tubular coil.

**9. (Previously Presented):** The process according to claim 1, wherein the tubular coil is affixed between the annular assemblies.

**10. (Previously Presented):** The process according to claim 9, wherein the tubular coil is affixed by adhesive to the annular assemblies.

**11. (Currently Amended):** An annular stack of lamination elements of the type for forming the stator of a linear electric motor and comprising a plurality of lamination elements seated laterally to each other, each lamination element having an internal axial extension and two end radial extensions, and in which annular stack is mounted a tubular coil, wherein each lamination element is defined by two lamination portions to be affixed to each other in seating regions with mutual fittings to complete the respective lamination element, at least one of said lamination portions having at least part of the internal axial extension of the respective lamination element and

one of the end radial extensions, each lamination portion presenting a respective radially internal edge to be mutually laterally seated side by side with a radially internal edge of an adjacent lamination portion defining a rectilinear alignment of each of a plurality of lamination portions.

**12. (Previously Presented):** The lamination stack according to claim 11, wherein each lamination portion presents a respective seating region for the mutual fitting to the other lamination portion upon the fixation of two annular assemblies to each other.

**13. (Previously Presented):** The lamination stack according to claim 11, wherein one of the lamination portions of each lamination element presents a recess in the respective seating region for the fitting of a complementary projection provided in another lamination portion, to complete the respective lamination element upon the fixation of two annular assemblies to each other.

**14. (Currently Amended):** A stator for an electric motor of the type comprising:  
a plurality of lamination elements seated laterally to each other, each lamination element comprising:

an internal axial extension; and

two end radial extensions, in which stator is mounted a tubular coil, wherein each lamination element comprises two lamination portions to be affixed to each other in seating regions with mutual fittings, to complete the respective lamination element, at least one of said lamination portions having at least part of the internal axial extension of the respective lamination element and one of the end radial extensions, and the tubular coil being provided with an insulating cover

injected thereon, each lamination portion presenting a respective radially internal edge to be mutually laterally seated side by side with a radially internal edge of an adjacent lamination portion defining a rectilinear alignment of each of a plurality of lamination portions.

15. (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 5, wherein the seating step further comprising the step of:

providing a self-locating feature to assist in the affixing of the two annular assemblies,  
further comprising the steps of:

providing the projection seating region with a triangular geometry; and

providing the recess seating region with a complementary geometry to the triangular geometry.